

KEY TO  
BRAILLE MUSIC SIGNS

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## BRAILLE MUSIC SIGNS

A tempo ♩ (sometimes ♩ )

Accent or accent-forzando

Accent-martellato    :: ::  
                          :: ::

Alphabet: a b c d e f g h i j  
k l m n o p q r s t  
u v w x y z

Appoggiatura, long  $\begin{smallmatrix} \cdot\cdot \\ \cdot\cdot \end{smallmatrix}$  short  $\begin{smallmatrix} \cdot\cdot \\ \cdot\cdot \end{smallmatrix}$

Arpeggio  continuous in both hands 

Bracket or phrase slur

Crescendo

Da capo

Da capo 8 measures.

Diminuendo

Double-bar    .: .:

## Doubled signs

staccato to continue

```
third interval to continue
```

etc.

Eighth notes: c d e f g a b

Eighth rest



## Endings

first (prima) ⋈ ⋈

second (seconda) ⋈ ⋈

## Expression marks

accent or accent-forzando ⋈ ⋈

accent-martellato ⋈ ⋈

crescendo ⋈ ⋈ ⋈

diminuendo ⋈ ⋈ ⋈

forte ⋈ ⋈ ⋈ fortissimo ⋈ ⋈ ⋈ ⋈

forzando ⋈ ⋈ ⋈ ⋈

legato ⋈ ⋈ ⋈

marcato or tenuto-staccato ⋈ ⋈

mezzo-forte ⋈ ⋈ ⋈ ⋈

mezzo-piano ⋈ ⋈ ⋈ ⋈

mezzo-staccato ⋈ ⋈ or ⋈ ⋈

piano ⋈ ⋈ ⋈ pianissimo ⋈ ⋈ ⋈ ⋈

sforzando ⋈ ⋈ ⋈ ⋈ or ⋈ ⋈ ⋈ ⋈ ⋈

staccato ⋈ staccatissimo ⋈ ⋈

tenuto ⋈ ⋈

tenuto-staccato or marcato ⋈ ⋈

word sign ⋈

Fifth finger ⋈ (placed after note)



Fifth interval ⠠⠠⠠⠠

Fifth octave ⠠⠠⠠⠠ (placed before note)

Finger signs (placed after notes)

1 ⠠⠠ 2 ⠠⠠ 3 ⠠⠠ 4 ⠠⠠ 5 ⠠⠠

First finger ⠠⠠⠠⠠ (placed after note)

First octave ⠠⠠⠠⠠ (placed before note)

Flat ⠠⠠⠠⠠

Forte ⠠⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠

Fortissimo ⠠⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠

Forzando ⠠⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠

Fourth finger ⠠⠠⠠⠠ (placed after note)

Fourth interval ⠠⠠⠠⠠

Fourth octave ⠠⠠⠠⠠ (placed before note)

Half notes: c ⠠⠠⠠⠠ d ⠠⠠⠠⠠ e ⠠⠠⠠⠠ f ⠠⠠⠠⠠ g ⠠⠠⠠⠠ a ⠠⠠⠠⠠ b ⠠⠠⠠⠠

Half rest ⠠⠠⠠⠠

Hand signs: right ⠠⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠ left ⠠⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠

Hold or pause ⠠⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠ over space ⠠⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠

over bar ⠠⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠

In-accord signs

regular whole measure ⠠⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠

part measure ⠠⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠ and

section mark ⠠⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠

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## Intervals

2 :. 3 :. 4 :. 5 :. 6 :. 7 :. 8 :.

## Key signatures

one sharp :. 2 sharps :. :. 4 sharps :. :. :.

one flat :. 3 flats :. :. :. 5 flats :. :. :.

Left hand :. :.

Legato :. :. :.

Marcato or tenuto -staccato :. :.

Martellato (accent) :. :.

Mezzo-forte :. :. :. :.

Mezzo-piano :. :. :. :.

Mezzo-staccato :. :. or :. :.

Music hyphen :.

Natural :.

## Notes

eighths: c :. d :. e :. f :. g :. a :. b :.

quarters: c :. d :. e :. f :. g :. a :. b :.

halves: c :. d :. e :. f :. g :. a :. b :.

wholes: c :. d :. e :. f :. g :. a :. b :.

sixteenths same as wholes

thirty-seconds same as halves

Number sign :.



# Numerals

1 2 3 4 5  
6 7 8 9 0

## Octave signs (placed before notes)

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8  
sub-contra octave

## Parentheses

Pause or hold over space  
over bar

Pedal Pedal release

Phrase or bracket slur

Piano

Pianissimo

Quarter notes: c d e f g a b

Quarter rest

## Repeats

measure or part measure 3 times

part beat

last 2 measures measure 1





























measures 2 to 5

back 2 repeat 1

begin-strain repeat-strain



## Rests

eighth  quarter half  whole or sixteenth Right hand Ritard Second finger  (placed after note)Second interval Second octave  (placed before note)Seventh interval Seventh octave  (placed before note)Sforzando  or Sharp Sixth interval Sixth octave  (placed before note)Sixteenth notes: c  d  e  f  g  a  b Sixteenth rest Sub-contra octave Slur  Phrase or bracket slur  shift slur hand-to-hand Staccato  staccatissimo Tenuto Tenuto-staccato or marcato 



Third finger ⠠⠠ (placed after note)

Third interval ⠠⠠

Third octave ⠠⠠ (placed before note)

Tie single notes or intervals ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠

Tie chord or arpeggio ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠

Time signatures

two-four ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠

four-four ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠

three-two ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠

Trill ⠠⠠

Triplet ⠠⠠ Triplet within triplet ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠

Whole notes: c ⠠⠠ d ⠠⠠ e ⠠⠠ f ⠠⠠ g ⠠⠠ a ⠠⠠ b ⠠⠠

Whole measure rest ⠠⠠

Word sign ⠠⠠

For further signs, explanations and  
examples of use see

KEY TO BRAILLE MUSIC NOTATION

by

L. W. Rodenberg

(The present condensed key was prepared by  
Marion Kappes, Cleveland, Ohio, 1928.)





# BRAILLE MUSIC SIGNS (Most used)

Notes: c d e f g a b (eighths)

Values (of c)

quarter half whole or sixteenth

dotted quarter dotted half

Time signatures

two-four four-four

three-two

Double bar

Hand signs: right left

Octave signs (placed before notes)

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

sub-contra octave

Finger signs (placed after notes)

1 2 3 4 5

Key signatures: one sharp 2 sharps

one flat 3 flats 5 flats

Accidentals: sharp flat natural

Rests: eighth quarter half

whole or sixteenth

Intervals: 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Slur phrase or bracket slur





